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# USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1464

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## TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN AN AIR DEFENSE MISSILE REGIMENT

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian. No 8, Apr 79 signed to press  
4 Apr 79 pp 25-30

[Article by Guards Lt Col O. Pitkulin, Commander, Guards Thrice-Awarded  
Air Defense Missile Regiment, Master of Combat Qualification: "Economically  
and With High Quality"]

[Text] The air defense troops stand a perpetual guard over the Soviet sky. Their mission is one of extraordinary state importance--to immediately repel any aggressor who may dare to violate the inviolability of the socialist fatherland's air borders. Conscious of their sacred constitutional duty, our Guards soldiers are working with great patriotic inspiration in these last days of winter training. The defenders of the motherland's skies are pleased with the results of the recent elections in the USSR Supreme Soviet, which once again clearly demonstrated the monolithic unity of the Soviet people about the Leninist party. The high evaluation given to the armed forces in the appeal of the CC CPSU to all voters and citizens of the USSR inspires us, and all soldiers of the army and navy, to work selflessly.

As everyone knows, our regiment initiated a socialist competition in the National Air Defense Forces with the motto "Stand a Watchful Guard Over the Achievements of Socialism, Raise Combat Readiness and the Level of Military Proficiency to the Utmost." This is great honor, and a high responsibility. The regiment's personnel understand this well. Working persistently to satisfy their socialist pledges, all enlisted men, sergeants, warrant officers, and officers are diligently improving their proficiency and maintaining their watchfulness and combat readiness at the level required today.

We are now orienting all of our organizational and ideological work at attaining good performance in our training plans and programs, at strengthening discipline, and at serving combat duty alertly. Under the guidance of experienced commanders, Guards soldiers are striving to achieve a mastery of missile complexes which would fully permit their use in the most complex situations. The stubbornness and persistence of the missilemen are

producing success. All that had been planned for the first months of the winter training period has been completed. We climbed to a new step in combat proficiency. The personnel have increased their class ratings, and the number of outstanding soldiers of combat and political training has risen. In my opinion these achievements were predetermined by the fact that the commanders and political workers of the subunits organized training and indoctrination competently and that each soldier has had a personal interest in the common good and tried to make the maximum contribution to the training missions. A situation of great efficiency, adherence to principles, and exactingness has been created in the batteries and crews.

We have been entrusted with a sacred duty--protection of the motherland. We have everything we need for this--modern rocket weaponry, sophisticated electronic equipment and communication resources, and automated control systems. The soldiers have a high quality training material base and well-outfitted combat positions at their disposal. It stands to reason that all of this requires a great deal of materiel and money. Our regiment's personnel avidly supported the initiative of Baltic tank crews and actively joined the campaign for economy and thrift. This is what is required of us by the Communist Party and the Soviet government. "It is our great patriotic duty," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev pointed out at the 25th CPSU Congress, "to account for precisely and use effectively every ruble, every hour of labor, and every ton of production, and to conclusively eradicate mismanagement and waste."

In and of itself, the problem of making sensible use of materiel and money is not new. However, the economic grounds for combat training plans are not being determined meticulously everywhere as yet. Sometimes this aspect is totally forgotten by some commanders, and staffs, service chiefs, engineers, and technicians afford little attention to it. And yet it is part and parcel of their work. Given a choice between two commanders whose subordinates achieve the same levels of success in their training, we recognize the one who needed the least materiel to be the better teacher. Or, to put it more plainly, the one who was more thrifty. After all, effectiveness and economy are kindred concepts. Experience has shown that far from all officers are able to make the necessary economic computations quickly. It is obviously easy to find an explanation for this: In only rare cases are economic problems touched upon by students and cadets of military training institutions. And yet the interests of the matter demand that a commander have a facility with the methods of military economic analysis no lower than his facility with, as an example, the methods of analyzing a tactical situation or the means of gaining local orientation.

Fighting for effectiveness in its military work, the regiment has placed its reliance on integration and intensification of combat training, on revealing unutilized reserves, on carefully maintaining and storing and competently utilizing and servicing military equipment, armament, and military property, on lengthening the length of time equipment runs between repairs and the life itself of the equipment, and on economizing on materiel, money, fuel,



electric power, and POL. It is my deep conviction that to be thrifty means to search untiringly for the way to complete a particular task with minimum outlays of manpower and money.

We try to maintain an integrated approach to the problems of thrift and sensible organization of training and indoctrination. A movement for economical expenditure of the life of military equipment and for use of training apparatus with maximum payoff is growing in the regiment. A well organized socialist competition in the subunits is going a long way to promote effective organization of combat training and, consequently, economization of materiel. The pledges of the Guards soldiers include the following items: persistently assimilate the combat equipment and control systems. Increase the number of masters of combat qualification among officers and warrant officers by 15 percent and have not less than 90 percent of the best specialists upgrade their class ratings by the second anniversary of the USSR Constitution. And, by the end of the training year, make one out of every two soldiers an outstanding soldier, and have not less than 60 percent outstanding subunits in the regiment. Complete all training mission with a grade of "excellent." The guards soldiers have decided to achieve a savings of 3.5 percent in electric power and POL. The training material base, military camps, and residential buildings are to be maintained in exemplary condition.

I could name several batteries in which the personnel are successfully satisfying their socialist pledges and constantly seeking new possibilities and reserves for economizing on the life of combat equipment and state property. Efficiency work, invention efforts, utilization of the best methods for operation of the materiel, and a thrifty attitude toward training aids are capable of producing a savings. The regiment devotes the most persistent attention to these problems. The subunits have now created numerous training complexes, trainers, devices, and simulators making it possible to conduct lessons in a situation maximally close to that of real battle. Great credit in this belongs to masters of combat qualification officers N. Tkachenko, M. Chernyshov, and other active efficiency experts. They helped their subunit commanders to improve the training apparatus, and they made suggestions on how to organize training more effectively. We view the technical creativity of the soldiers as a reserve for raising combat readiness, and we always consider that the personnel's participation in innovative movements promotes enrichment of practical habits and theoretical knowledge, and intensification of creative activity. Thus following the initiative of Communist Master of Combat Qualification N. Tkachenko, the best specialists held supplementary lessons with their crews with the goal of improving the methods for organizing maintenance. As result the soldiers managed to reduce the equipment tuning and adjustment time by 10 percent. A significant savings is also now enjoyed in electric power and equipment life.

To us, the missilemen, economization of equipment life is perhaps the most promising direction to follow. After all, every hour of work done by an antiaircraft missile complex costs hundreds of rubles. All of the regiment's batteries are waging a decisive battle to reduce repair time with the goal

of achieving tangible results, though naturally without detriment to combat readiness. It is not easy to find a particular part that has failed. Sometimes such a part can be found only with the apparatus turned on. Consequently such a task should be completed by an engineer, a technician, and operator, or a launcher who understands the circuitry well and has a firm knowledge of the physical processes occurring in the circuits.

Here is another factor that we must consider. Missile guidance radar, for example, is supported by several independent systems. To predict a fault in one of them, we would not necessarily have to turn the others on. But inexperienced specialists often fail to consider this. To avoid such mistakes the personnel of the leading electronic battery commanded by Engineer-Major A. Vdovichenko are taught the methods of determining faulty components on the basis of typical signs, and mandatorily with a consideration of the operating data of functional circuits. Special training sessions, demonstration lessons, and exercises are held for this purpose. Guards captains M. Chernyshov, A. Nikitin, and others have proven themselves to be experts on combat equipment. Their average time for finding faulty components is minimum. Owing to their outstanding skills these specialists have attained a significant savings of the life of electronic apparatus and launching equipment.

Correct organization of special and technical training lessons also has important significance to lengthening the time materiel can be run between repairs and its life. The regiment regularly holds teacher training rallies for different categories of servicemen. The regiment's executives systematically visit the battalions and batteries during their training time, helping them to make broader use of the recommendations arrived at by the teaching methods council and by military scientific, teaching methods, and technical conferences.

I would like to speak in this connection about the benefits to be gained from stage-by-stage development of the habits and knowledge of the specialists. The essence of this training method is to proceed from the simple to the complex. Beginning with the very first lessons, the subunit soldiers are taught to always act competently and correctly as they inspect, turn on, and monitor functional apparatus, as they load the launchers, and as they detect, track, and "destroy" targets, first without interference and later in its presence. Success is achieved through precise completion of all operations with the help of a specially written checklist providing descriptions of all of the actions.

Introduction of this innovation required a certain amount of organizational change in the training of the subunits. But this considerable amount of difficult work paid for itself a hundredfold. Good results were achieved in subunits commanded by officers A. Vdovichenko and V. Nikonov. The officers, warrant officers, and sergeants serving as instructors are continuing to improve their own practical and teaching skills, and they are deepening their special knowledge. They recognize that a saving can be achieved in materiel



only when training is organized properly, with the complexity of the tasks being increased gradually, and when every training session, every lesson, and every exercise is preceded by meticulous preparation. And before going on to practical work with the equipment, every specialist makes a thorough study of his future actions, using electrified diagrams, mock-ups, and trainers. As a result the training tasks are completed successfully and equipment life is saved.

The crews of diesel electric power plants serviced by Guards privates Ye. Zhbanov and V. Lebedev have also enjoyed significant achievement in combat training and materiel economization. In just the last year alone they saved about 30 percent of the planned expenditure of equipment life.

Staff officers and armament service officers are taking effective steps to economize. Thus, after analyzing the missile delivery route they came to the conclusion that its length could be decreased significantly. Of course, some additional work had to be done. And yet they managed to reduce the distance the special vehicles had to travel, prevent countercurrent traffic, and accelerate delivery of missiles to the launchers.

All of the subunits are engaged in a creative search for the ways and methods of raising the effectiveness of training and service. Analyses performed by commanders and political workers are also acquiring great significance; their research laboratory is represented by the classroom, the missile position, and the practice range where training missions are executed and where the persistent struggle to satisfy the standards goes on.

Take as an example Guards Major S. Terent'yev, commander of an outstanding battalion. He is a willful, competent, resourceful, exacting officer. Meticulously analyzing the actions of his antiaircraft missile complex in different situations, and trying out all of the possibilities it affords for combat and maneuver, he takes notes on everything, and he systematizes and compares all of his data. Then, after studying the material he has collected over a certain period of time, he makes recommendations to his subordinates concerning effective use of the missiles and electronic equipment in a modern battle. Broad use is made of precision missile launch and technical training sessions in the battalion in order to improve the combat proficiency of the officers. As a rule these training sessions are held two or three times a week. In them, the officers study in different groups--launchers, technicians, and platoon commanders. The officers come together only to study the general problems. In these training sessions the officers not only improve the methods of their combat work, but they also polish their skills of tuning and adjusting the equipment, satisfy the standards, and exchange experience.

The fact that the battalion commander conducts the lessons of the officers, especially the launcher control officers, has important significance to the improvements being made in their practical skills of combat control and in their tactical proficiency. He creates aerial and ground situations of

varying complexity, he teaches the officers to make competent decisions related to target strikes and to countering the enemy's use of mass destruction weapons, and he makes sure that the officers fulfill the requirements of the combat instructions and manuals to the letter. His labor bears good fruit. The best battalion never experiences any problems when young, inexperienced men replace experienced officers promoted out of the battalion. All such changeovers are planned for. The stably high grades of the combat crews, most of which have held the outstanding title for several years in a row, are in my opinion the product of the style of work exhibited by Communist S. Terent'yev.

Officer V. Nikonov, a battery commander and secretary of the primary party organization of an antiaircraft missile regiment, also offers an example of a carefully thought out relationship to training organization. Once he computed how much time was needed by the launcher crews to attain the planned level of special training. He revealed significant differences in this time. Why did they exist? Time-and-motion studies were made, and the soldiers were interviewed. It turned out that each crew spent different times on training.

Shortcomings in the crew training procedures were discussed at an official meeting of the platoon commanders. This issue was also raised at one of the battery's regular party meetings. The communists suggested making effective use of the training time, conducting time-and-motion studies on specific operations in the training sessions, and raising the degree of rivalry in the lessons. The battalion commander heeded the proposals of the party members, and he implemented them. Training quality improved, which in turn reduced the amount of time the launching equipment had to be turned on to a minimum.

The regiment's political section and party organization constantly maintain an awareness of the problems concerning combat and political training effectiveness, economy, and thrift. They penetrate deeply into the essence of problems, and they maintain an active influence on all aspects of the life and activities of the subunits, making sure that communists would strictly follow the requirements spelled out in the party charter--"Economize on and multiply public and socialist property--the foundation of the Soviet motherland's power and progress." The results of the competition for economy and thrift among the battalions are regularly summarized by the political section at conferences of the subunit political workers. Party organization secretaries have attended seminars on the topics "Party Concern for a Thrifty Attitude Toward Equipment and Armament," "Economizing in Matters Great and Small," and others.

Stimulating the initiative of the soldiers, officers of the political section and active party members are persistently striving to see that every missileman would deeply understand that any omission in his knowledge, any oversight, and any lack in his training may lead not only to a drop in combat readiness but also excessive expenditure of expensive resources and materials, and to

premature wear of launchers and other equipment. Thrift is constantly at the center of attention of the group of peoples' control, headed by Guards Major V. Vodopyanov. The peoples' inspectors regularly make unannounced visits to check up on the use of weapons and of monitoring and measuring instruments, and on consumption of electric power and POL. When shortcomings are revealed, efficient steps are taken to correct them. The best experience is brought to the awareness of all personnel without delay.

One of the decisive prerequisites for successful completion of training plans and satisfaction of high socialist pledges is continuous influence by the party. This continuity is achieved mainly through the activity and persistence of officers of the unit's political section and party organizations. Practically all communists are given concrete troop indoctrination assignments, and their progress in these assignments is monitored. Communists V. Yermakov, V. Kikot', V. Nilov, and others explain the tasks posed to the armed forces by the 25th CPSU Congress, V. I. Lenin's commands, and the CPSU's domestic and foreign policies in lectures, reports, discussions, and political briefings. The political section is perpetually concerned about the efficiency with which people are informed of the military-political situation and events in the country and abroad. Group attendance of late-breaking news broadcasts is broadly practiced. The glorious traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces and the National Air Defense Forces and the heroic deeds of the regiment's soldiers in the Great Patriotic War and in peacetime are actively publicized.

The unit has firmly adopted forms of party-political work such as regiment-wide political day, and regular lectures by communist executives and officers of the political section and the regimental headquarters to personnel on duty and to combat crews. Staff communists help the subunit commanders to correct shortcomings, and they encourage their active participation in political indoctrination measures. Party and Komsomol meetings and committee and bureau conferences are regularly held to discuss the tasks of the communists and Komsomol members in the concluding stage of winter training. Communists provide an example of organization and faithfulness to promises. Through their efforts, the personnel begin to find their training time precious, to utilize every lesson hour and every training session with maximum effectiveness, and to complete their combat and political training plans well.

Great is the role of the regiment's Komsomol members and young officers in this effort. Under the guidance of communists, they persistently fight to satisfy the standards, to strike targets with the first launch and at maximum range, and to satisfy daytime standards at night. The movement for the title "Successors of the Best Wartime Specialists" has assumed broad scope in the regiment. Many active Komsomol members have pledged to pass examinations certifying them for independent fulfillment of responsibilities one level above the posts they occupy.

Battalion commanders, political workers, and party organizations are doing everything to encourage the initiative of the Komsomol committees in the

socialist competition, channeling the enthusiasm of the young soldiers at seeking unutilized reserves, raising lesson effectiveness and quality, economizing on materiel, and attaining further successes in strengthening the combat readiness of their Guards regiment.

This is the last stage of winter training. Enriched with valuable experience and proficiency, our soldiers are continuing to improve their combat skills persistently. It will soon be time for them to summarize the results and grade their progress; on critically analyzing their achievements, they will be able to adopt all of the best ideas and march toward new summits of combat readiness with even greater thrift, persistence, and purposefulness. At this stage, every training day acquires special importance and significance. We display constant concern for maximum effectiveness in training, for economization of materiel, for utilization of all reserves, and for reinforcement of weak spots.

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## MILITARY TOURISM FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED

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[Article by Maj Gen A. Gashchuk, Chief, USSR Ministry of Defense Administration  
of Tourism and Tours: "With Benefit to Military Affairs"]

[Text] In the USSR Armed Forces, tourism is rightfully viewed not only as a mass form of rest for Soviet soldiers, their family members, and army and navy laborers and office workers but also as an important background for their communist indoctrination and for improvement of their physical fitness, health, and endurance. Tourism is a means for raising the combat proficiency of the armed defenders of our motherland; it develops their applied military knowledge and skills, discipline, organization, and faithful troop comradeship.

V. I. Lenin attached important significance to physical fitness and tourism, interpreting them as necessary resources of active rest and recuperation of the working ability of Soviet people. As his friends recall, Vladimir Il'ich said that the builders of the new world have a special need for cheerfulness and alertness, for healthy sports--gymnastics, swimming, field trips, and physical exercises of various sorts, a diversity of spiritual interests, training, analysis, and research, and that all of these functions should be performed together to the extent possible. V. I. Lenin's words are especially applicable and understandable to Soviet soldiers called upon to dependably and bravely stand guard over the peaceful labor of our people, and to be ready to face any aggressor boldly and decisively at any minute.

The history of army tourism has its roots back in the 1920's. In 1925 six RKKA [Workers and Peasants Red Army] commanders from the Moscow garrison participated in the first mountain hike. They crossed the Main Caucasian Range. A so-called military expedition was conducted in August 1927. The participants included 14 cadets and instructors from the Tiflis Infantry School. They all climbed Mount Kazbek. A year later 17 persons from this school climbed El'brus. Tourism developed especially intensively in the army beginning in 1929. Soldier-sportsmen conquered a number of summits in the Caucasus, Pamir Mountains, the Tien-Shan Range, and the Urals. (TsDKA)



military tourist bases were created in Sevastopol', Balaklava, Alushta, and Yalta. In 1935 the RKKA's mountaineering school began offering courses in Terskol. It trained many outstanding mountaineering organizers and instructors. Much work was done in the prewar years by the Red Army Central Palace imeni M. V. Frunze and the Red Army garrison palaces. They had their own tourist bases and mountaineering camps, and they organized major mountaineering competitions, summer and winter tourist hikes, and climbs. Thus in August 1933 the RKKA held its first mountaineering competition. At that time, 58 persons climbed Mount El'brus. Next year 750 took part in the RKKA's second mountaineering competition. In their ascents of the Zaalayskiy Range and El'brus they broke the world records for the number of climbers attempting summits of exceptional difficulty. Army tourists made the first ascents of Pamir and Tien-Shan in that same year. More than 40 of the best participants of the RKKA's second mountaineering competition were awarded valuable gifts by USSR Peoples Commissar of Defense K. Ye. Voroshilov.

One of the last functions held before the war was a mountain training rally attended by touring soldiers in Terskol. About a thousand commanders who had graduated from the Tbilisi, Baku, Ordzhinikidze, and Tashkent military schools took part in it. All of the participants of the rally learned to surmount various mountain obstacles and fight in complex high-altitude conditions. The experience and proficiency acquired by army tourists in peacetime helped them during the Great Patriotic War: They participated in the battle of the Caucasus, they taught mountaineering instructors, and they transmitted their knowledge and skills of mountain survival to Red Army soldiers and to soldiers in partisan detachments. In February 1943 20 Soviet Army officers climbed to the summit of El'brus under the leadership of USSR Distinguished Masters of Sports A. Gusev and N. Gusak, took down the fascist standards, and raised the Soviet flags.

Soldiers of the army and navy continue to multiply the remarkable traditions of army tourism today. They are firming their will, steadfastness, and endurance with benefit to military affairs, and they are learning what they would need in modern battle. In compliance with the decisions of CPSU congresses and orders of the USSR minister of defense, the armed forces are doing a significant amount of work aimed at all-out development of army tourism. The Krasnaya Polyana and Kudépsta complexes and the Terskol and Zhdanovich bases have been built. Well outfitted dormitories have been placed into operation at the Sukhumi, Kobuleti, and Kichkine tourist bases. Dining halls and cultural-personal services buildings have been erected or rebuilt in a number of places.

Among district and naval tourist bases we can name Razliv on the Karelian Isthmus, Liyelupe on the Riga seacoast, Yantarnyy Bereg not far from the health resort city Svetlogorsk, Zhdanovich on the shore of Krynitsa Reservoir 13 kilometers from Minsk, Karpaty in the ancient city of Mukachevo, and others. They are all picturesque places, and they afford tourists the possibility for resting well and improving their physical fitness.



Last year the USSR Ministry of Defense's tourist bases completed their planned assignments ahead of schedule. Two hundred ten thousand persons spend their leaves at its bases. In comparison with 1977 the number of officers spending their leaves on tourist passes increased significantly. About 800,000 persons participated in hikes organized in the troops and at tour bases as part of planned and independent tourism, 1.2 million persons participated in tours, and 178,000 took part in various tourist sports measures. In the year, 116,000 USSR Tourist badges and 15,000 tourism insignias were earned.

The collectives of the Krasnaya Polyana and Kichkine tourist bases were awarded the perpetual Red banners of the USSR Ministry of Defense and the Central Committee of the State Institution Workers Trade Union, first degree diplomas, and monetary prizes by order of the USSR minister of defense and the chief of the USSR Armed Forces Rear Services on the basis of the results of the 1978 all-union socialist competition. Second degree diplomas and monetary prizes were awarded to the Terskol and Sevastopol' collectives.

Tourist bases of the USSR Ministry of Defense are doing a great deal of interesting work. The interesting itineraries permit soldiers and members of their families not only to improve their health but also gain a better knowledge of the country's history, its economy, culture, and nature. Tourists hike and take tours to places of importance to Lenin's biography, and to places of the Soviet people's revolutionary, combat, and labor glory. They visit major industrial enterprises, kolkhozes, and sovkhoses, and they meet with party and revolution veterans, and with heroes of war and labor. Thus thousands of tourists from the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District participated in tours of the places of the capital's heroic defense. Soldiers of the Red Banner Baltic and North Caucasus military districts visited a Volga strongpoint--the Hero City of Volgograd. Army tourists visited the Brest Fortress. More than a hundred soldiers took part in the "Pilots in the Battles of Koenigsberg" tour. The bravery and heroism of Baltic pilots was related to the tourists by Hero of the Soviet Union Colonel General of Aviation (Reserve) M. Samokhin, commander of the Red Banner Baltic Fleet Air Force, and Hero of the Soviet Union Lieutenant General of Aviation (Reserve) P. Khokhlov, who participated in the Berlin air raid in July 1941. Sixty soldiers of Major A. Gusakov's subunit traveled to Krasnodon and Ravenki--places of underground activity of the legendary Komsomol organization. They visited the museum of the Krasnodon underground, placed flowers at the memorial to the young Guards, and visited with the parents of the heroes.

A group of tourists from the Red Banner Ural Military District acquainted themselves with places of historic interest in the city of L'vov, and with the combat road taken by the Iron Division and the Guards Ural'sk-L'vov Volunteer Tank Corps. They also visited the museum of the legendary scout Hero of the Soviet Union Nikolay Kuznetsov, whose acts of heroism were related to the soldiers by his former aide, N. Strutinskiy.

The hikes and tours listed here are only a few of those taken by army tourists to memorable places of the Great Patriotic War. They attest to the great possibilities tourism offers for nurturing a spirit of faithfulness to the glorious combat traditions of the army and navy in the soldiers. The hikes and tours to memorable places provide a good background for organizing extensive military patriotic work among army youth and the local public. Following the combat roads of famous regiments and divisions, tourists speak with the residents of towns and villages, they give concerts, and they maintain monuments to and graves of soldiers who had died in battles for the liberty and independence of our motherland. Thus more than 48,000 lectures and reports were given on political and military-patriotic topics and more than 12,000 amateur concerts were given during the Second All-Army Rally and the All-Army Relay to Hero Cities. Seventeen groups of young tourists toured the places of Sevastopol's heroic defense. One of the groups set out to sea on Victory Day with veteran submariners to pay respects to submarine crews that had died heroically during the Great Patriotic War.

Bus trips to cities of the Soviet republics and on the Military Georgian Road are gaining increasing popularity among army tourists. People taking cruises on the Moscow-Ul'yanovsk-Leningrad-Moscow, Moscow-Astrakhan'-Moscow, and Yenisey River routes have expressed sincere satisfaction in their trips.

The family vacations at the tourist bases offer great possibilities for educating children and the growing generation. To put it bluntly, interesting experience has been accumulated in this important affair. Certain tourist bases--Krasnaya Polyana, Kudepsta, Primorsk, and others--organize family vacations in such a way that their functions would be attractive to both children and parents. The best dormitories and well-conceived tourist itineraries have been allocated to families by these bases. They have set up children's camps outfitted with athletic areas and rooms in which the children could play chess or checkers, read, draw, and so on in bad weather.

Unfortunately not all tourist base directors have displayed adequate responsibility in organizing family vacations. The Cherek, Karpaty, and Sochi tourist bases did not create separate tours for families with children, which instead have to participate in general public cultural measures. The Issyk-Kul' tourist base did not do anything at all to organize family vacations.

The success of tourist operations depends to a significant extent on the attention devoted to it by the command, by political agencies, and by party and Komsomol organizations. It should be stated that most of them penetrate deeply into the activities of tourism sections and the tourist bases, and that they show concern for organizing the best vacations for soldiers and their families, and for material and technical support of the bases. Thus the tourism section of the Red Banner Kiev Military District, the tourism section of the Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District, and the tourism

section of the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District were awarded the Perpetual Red Banner for their high indices in development of army tourism; in addition the first earned a first degree certificate, the second was awarded a second degree certificate, and the third earned a third degree certificate.

The command of these districts, the political agencies, and the party and Komsomol organizations of the units, formations, and institutions are actively and effectively influencing tourism organization efforts, they are discussing the problems of tourism development at conferences, seminars, and meetings of commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol active members, and they are helping the organizations to conduct public functions. District newspapers, district and garrison officers homes, and officers clubs are actively publicizing tourism.

The command, political agencies, and party and Komsomol organizations of the Red Banner Belorussian, Odessa, Precarpathian, and Siberian military districts, the Black Sea Fleet, and others are providing considerable assistance to the development of army tourism. However, certain units and institutions of the Order of Lenin Moscow Antiaircraft District are still not devoting adequate attention to tourism as a form of active rest. A recent inspection revealed that the tourist clubs and sections do not always receive adequate support from the executive level. This is why few trips, holiday hikes, and excursions are organized. The need officers, their families, laborers, and office workers display for sensible and useful passage of free time is not being fully satisfied.

Of course, such facts are few and far between. But there are still many unsolved problems in army tourism, suffered by many bases. For example we must organize family vacations for officers with children on an even broader scope, and we need to attract more servicemen to tourism, especially young commanders and political workers. Attention to development of this important work by executive personnel has special significance in connection with the perspectives for development and expansion of tourist bases. New modern complexes--Borovoye, Sukhumi, and Razliv--will be erected in the Tenth Five-Year Plan. Major construction has been started in Teberd, Terskol, and other places. This will broaden the possibilities of army and naval bases even more, and it will also make it possible to develop tourism as major form of active rest, as an important resource of communist indoctrination, physical training, and improvement of the health of our soldiers and their families.

"Confirmation, in the consciousness of the laborers, and mainly of the young generation," said Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 25th CPSU Congress, "of the ideas of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, of pride in the Country of the Soviets and our motherland, and of a preparedness to stand in the defense of the achievements of socialism has been and continues to be one of the most important tasks of the party." All-out development of tourism in the country and in the USSR Armed Forces will promote completion of this honorable task.

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NAVAL TRAINING: POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION ON LONG CRUISES DESCRIBED

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNIYH SIL in Russian No 8, Apr 79 signed to press  
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[Article by Rear Adm I. Petrov, Chief, Propaganda and Agitation Section,  
and Deputy Chief, Naval Political Directorate: "In the Spirit of  
Intolerance of Bourgeois Ideology"]

[Text] Long ocean cruises have taken a firm position in the Soviet Navy as the principal school of personnel combat readiness and naval skill. Here, in difficult climatic conditions, in a battle with the menacing elements, the seamen forge their military proficiency and form their high moral-political and combat qualities. High combat readiness, the desire to end each sailing day with outstanding results, and broad initiative and creativity in the socialist competition for quality completion of all training missions are the law of life and activity of submarine and surface vessel crews. The motto of naval seamen has taken on the importance of a principle: On returning to base, be ready to set out to sea immediately.

Far from their native shores, ship collectives live a rich spiritual life, and each day they measure their deeds against the rhythm of the motherland, against the successes of the Soviet people in communist construction.

The greater scale of the navy's activities, its international nature, and the frequently complex military-political situations encountered in cruising regions require that we maintain the morale of the soldiers, keep their psychological preparedness at the required level, and creatively improve all forms and methods of ideological indoctrination.

The unique features of the activities of naval seamen place them rather often on the forward edge of the fight against bourgeois ideology. Each time they are confronted by such conditions, our people display high ideological maturity, the ability to evaluate events and facts from class positions and, if the situation requires, offer a deserved repulse to those who slander our way of life and to ideological saboteurs.

I recall a recent visit by our ship to the French port of Bordeaux, in which I was fortunate to participate. As always, the local public displayed

tremendous interest in the Soviet Union and its ambassadors. More than 22,000 French citizens visited the ship. All of the seamen participating in the cruise went ashore several times. Lively discussions went on aboard ship. There were also obvious malefactors among the visitors. During their talks with seamen and petty officers they asked provocative questions, but it was in vain that they tried to identify shortcomings in the Soviet structure and flaws in the rights of Soviet citizens, and to distort the objectives of the Warsaw Pact. The ability the seamen displayed for competently and logically discussing political subjects brings on a sense of satisfaction and pride. They presented many clear, persuasive examples from the life of the Soviet Union concerning the guaranteed rights of our citizens to labor, education, housing, medical care, and social welfare, things which the simple man cannot even dream of in the West! The seamen also knowledgeably discussed problems in foreign policy, they cited examples of swelling military budgets and the arms race in NATO countries, and of creation of new types of weapons of mass destruction by them, and they spoke of the military adventures of imperialist powers.

Visitors listened to our people with great attention. A sense of respect for the knowledge, culture, and moral countenance of the Soviet naval seamen could be felt. Of course the foreign guests also included those who tried to cause trouble, to pass out slanderous leaflets and pornography.

In a word, our impressions of the visitors were quite diverse. One of the visitors is remembered especially well by our seamen. A poorly dressed, sunken-cheeked, ungainly person visited the Soviet ship several days in a row, and he spent many hours gazing through tears at our ship's flag and at the happy people in sailor uniforms. It turned out that he had abandoned his motherland many years ago in his pursuit of delusive fortune on foreign soil, having believed the stories about the "life of Eden" in the capitalist world. Hard reality quickly dispelled his illusions. And now he lives out his days forgotten by all, needed by no one, far from his native land.

Such facts from visits by our ships to foreign ports are sometimes more persuasive than any sort of lectures.

During the visits the Soviet seamen always behaved themselves honorably. This is once again evidence of the meticulous work that has been done to shape the new man, the builder of communism.

Formation of the fully developed personality goes on every day in Soviet society, under the influence of the entire socialist way of our life. But this is mainly the result of the party's tremendous amount of work aimed at ideological indoctrination.

Service in the Soviet Army and Navy is a remarkable indoctrination ground, as Comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev warmly said at the 25th CPSU Congress. Through communist indoctrination is purposeful and extensive aboard all ships during all oceanic cruises. The sailing days are saturated with a



full ideological life. News of the native land, of the successes enjoyed by the Soviet people and countries of the socialist fraternity, and of the international situation is perceived especially keenly far from the motherland.

Marxism-Leninism is the sound foundation of ideological development of naval seamen. In his speech at the 18th Komsomol Congress, CC CPSU General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said: "We gain direction in our work towards communism mainly from the Marxist-Leninist doctrine on the laws of social development.... Every young Leninist must be an active political warrior, capable of effectively implementing party policy and waging an unconditional struggle against hostile ideology." It is precisely in this way, in the spirit of high communist conviction, that commanders, political workers, and party organizations try to indoctrinate naval seamen aboard ships undergoing long cruises. Ship collectives deeply study the historic documents of the 25th CPSU Congress with unweakening interest. Naval seamen constantly refer to books by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev--"Malaya zemlya" (The Little Land), "Vozrozhdeniye" (Resurrection), and "Tselina" (The Virgin Land)--which have such a tremendous educational influence on them.

Comprehensive public political work went on aboard the ships in connection with preparations for elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet. Thus speeches made by members of the agitprop collective and agitprop group of the Nth ship formation, in which Officer S. Rybak serves, were planned with a consideration for this highly important political campaign. The USSR Constitution, the guiding and leading role of the CPSU in Soviet society, socialist democracy and its advantages over bourgeois democracy, and friendship among the peoples of our country occupied the central place among the subjects discussed in the lectures, reports, and discussions presented by political section staff officers. Visual agitation extensively publicizing the Soviet way of life was organized aboard the ships. Ship broadcasting centers provided publicity to the elections. All of this helped and continues to help the seamen to achieve a fuller understanding of the life of their people, reduces the distance from the motherland, actively forms a communist philosophy, and inspires a deep feeling of love for the socialist fatherland.

Soldiers at sea refer to V. I. Lenin's works daily. The libraries and messes of every Soviet warship contain sets of Lenin's complete collected works, the three-volume collection of his selected works, and individual publications of Lenin's works. Lenin readings and discussions on individual works by V. I. Lenin are regularly held in the crew quarters. Recordings of the leader's voice are played as a rule at these times.

One good tradition has developed where officers, warrant officers, and many seamen and petty officers regularly study the works of Vladimir Il'ich independently at sea. Displays devoted to the life and revolutionary activities of V. I. Lenin are organized with great love aboard the ships. Foreign



citizens can always be found before these displays whenever the ships visit foreign ports. It is with tremendous gratefulness that they accept badges or postcards bearing an image of the leader of the proletarian revolution as a gift.

Ideological maturity is a sound basis for high political alertness and of the intoleration Soviet seamen, as well as all Soviet people hold for bourgeois ideology, a foundation for hatred of imperialists. The situation in the sailing areas of our ships is such that commanders and political workers must deal with this important area of the work constantly, purposefully and competently. As a rule naval ships and vessels sail in zones of activity of imperialist navies. The seamen often encounter provocations and ideological sabotage. This is why party-political work must counteract bourgeois ideology actively and offensively.

Naturally the greatest amount of emphasis is placed on revealing the truth about bourgeois ideology, Maoism, Zionism, and various forms of opportunism. Attending political lessons, seamen receive substantial answers to questions of interest to them. It has become the practice to conduct special lessons devoted to fighting bourgeois ideology and inspiring devotion to the ideals of communism, Soviet patriotism, ideological steadfastness, and high political awareness among Soviet people, and among army and navy soldiers. Seamen aboard all of the ships receive briefings on the military-political situation in the sailing area and in countries our ships are to visit, and they are instructed to maintain high political alertness. The fundamental advantages of socialism over capitalism and the achievements of the Soviet national economy, our science, technology, and culture are deeply revealed in officer Marxist-Leninist training groups, in the political training received by warrant officers, and in political lessons attended by seamen and petty officers.

Summaries written by officers and warrant officers on the pressing problems in the theory and policy of the CPSU help to raise the theoretical level of the lessons. These summaries afford a great deal of space to the international situation, to the intensified military preparations by imperialism, to China's aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and to the ideological struggle concerning the problems of war and peace. Of course, to prepare such summaries the officers must devote a great deal of effort to selecting the literature and to independently studying the works of V. I. Lenin and the party documents; however, this work does provide a return. The audience always discusses the prepared material diligently, with a sense of interest.

At the same time practice has shown that a greater effort must be made to attain a high level in lectures and seminars during long cruises; shortcomings in organization of independent work by students must be eradicated. Sometimes it happens that certain oral presentations are not tied in adequately with the situation in which the crew executes its missions. Need we prove that the effectiveness of the lessons suffers significantly from this?

Today's propagandists must apply greater effort to satisfy the growing demands of the seamen, petty officers, warrant officers, and officers, and to provide substantiated answers to questions troubling the audience. Of course, to do so the propagandist would have to have the appropriate training, and he must be fully aware of revolutionary theory and concrete facts. Thus political workers do the right thing aboard ship when, despite the complexity of the cruise, they regularly provide teacher training to group leaders and organize instructive lessons, seminars, and lectures for them.

In the difficult conditions of long sea cruises, political workers try to make the most active use of those forms of mass political work which have the greatest emotional influence on the people. This during a cruise, one of the ships of the Red Banner Northern Fleet held evening discussions on the topics "I, A Citizen of the Soviet Union" and "We are Faithful to Lenin's Work," oral journals "Vast is My Native Country" and "Two Worlds--Two Ideologies," and Lenin readings "V. I. Lenin on Aggressiveness of Imperialism" and "V. I. Lenin on the Need for High Political Alertness." Just the list of these measures alone attests to their orientation toward instilling a sense of patriotism and of intolerance of bourgeois ideology among the personnel. The speakers presented persuasive examples of imperialist aggression. The lectures were reinforced by film excerpts. This ship conducted Lenin readings, evening discussions on particular topics, and oral journals with the help of technical propaganda resources, and the speakers made use of excerpts from literary works.

Propaganda on revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions of the party and people and on the heroic history of the Soviet Union and its armed forces has an important place in nurturing political alertness, ideological steadfastness, and intolerance of our motherland's enemies in the naval seamen. In addition, lectures, reports, and discussions are extensively supported by tape recordings of speeches made by party, war, and labor veterans. Many ships have developed the good tradition of assuming the watches of heroes of the Great Patriotic War. There is a broad practice of conducting formal discussions beside displays of the battle history of the ship and fleet. Movie festivals devoted to memorable dates in the life of the Soviet people and their armed forces are organized.

It stands to reason that the quality and effectiveness of agitprop functions depends on how much active propagandists, communists, and officers participate in them. The antisubmarine ship Ochakov recently returned from a cruise lasting several months. It had traveled thousands of nautical miles. During the cruise the seamen improved their combat proficiency, and they completely satisfied the socialist pledges they had adopted. Many useful and interesting ideological measures were implemented with the personnel during the cruise. Communists were their initiators and their spirit. They determined the measures for improving their ideological influence on the personnel early in the cruise at a party meeting. In compliance with the resolutions arrived at by the meeting's participants, the bureau requested a number of communists to describe their personal participation in propaganda work,

and it intensified its surveillance over the activities of the agitprop group. The best-trained communists were ordered to speak on the following topics: "The American Sixth Fleet--The Tool of Imperialist Aggression," "Zionism--The Reactionary Ideology and Policy of Major European Bourgeoisie," and "Maoism--A Threat to Peace."

Subunits, party organizations and party groups did a great deal of work aimed at communist indoctrination of the soldiers at sea. By their personal example in their official duties and in discipline, and by their active participation in explaining party policy, communists maintained a daily influence upon all personnel. They were the direct participants of all measures organized by the Komsomol organizations of the departments and services, they helped active Komsomol members organize individual work with people, and they conducted Lenin readings and film discussions.

The level of influence upon personnel at sea depends in many ways on the way political briefings are given, and on their efficiency and timeliness. Political briefings are given four times a week aboard ships conducting lengthy cruises. Special attention is devoted to making the seamen aware of current events. News is broadcast several times a day in seamen's and petty officers' quarters, and officer cabins, typed daily news is posted in showcases, and news bulletins are provided to subunit agitators.

In order to help political workers, the naval political directorate transmits reports on the most important events in our country and abroad, on the combat training of soldiers in the Soviet Armed Forces, and on the best experience of the leading ships and units to ships at sea each day, including Saturday and Sunday. Once a week the ships receive the newspaper OKEANSKIM KURSOM by phototelegraph. The most important party documents and the texts of speeches by leaders of the Communist Party and the Soviet government are regularly transmitted by the communication channels.

Political agencies devote the most serious attention to providing political and artistic literature, technical propaganda resources, and a set of motion pictures and tape recordings of lectures, speeches by veterans of war and labor, and music programs to ships setting out to sea.

The situation itself in the areas visited by our ships, and contact with the realities of the capitalist world provide rich material for instilling political alertness, intolerance of bourgeois ideology, and hatred of imperialism in the personnel.

Each year many thousands of seamen visit foreign ports. Here they encounter different aspects of life in capitalist and developing countries. All of this naturally elicits a certain reaction and numerous conclusions and questions in the personnel. The personal observations of the seamen help to answer many of these questions. As an example let me cite a statement made by Senior Seaman V. Shiryayev: "I can now state publicly that it is incomparably better to live in the Soviet Union than in the richest capitalist

country." Here, moreover, are some notes made by our seamen following a visit by Soviet warships to a certain capitalist country: "This was the first time I was far away from my motherland, from the shores of our country. And I sensed especially keenly how fabulous it is"; "The words of a certain song, 'No other country do I know where a person can breathe so free,' now have a new and deeper meaning to me."

Bourgeois mass media are afraid to tell the truth about Soviet realities, considerably distorting them. We can see this from an analysis of questions asked of our seamen by foreign citizens visiting Soviet ships. They ask the following sorts of questions: "Is it true that women in the Soviet Union wear veils?" "Can Soviet citizens travel freely to different cities in the Soviet Union?" "When were ration cards repealed in your country?" and so on. Typically the visitors come with such questions mostly to enlisted men and petty officers, believing that officers are specially trained propagandists. The seamen are amazed by how poorly people abroad know our country and other countries of the socialist fraternity.

They cannot remain indifferent to the poverty and backwardness of the masses in developing countries that inherited the legacy of colonialism. They are disturbed by the policy of neocolonialism, plunder, and racial suppression being implemented by imperialist monopolies and states in the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. As do all Soviet people, seamen approve with all their heart the words stated by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at his meeting with the electorate of the capital's Baumanskiy election district: "Support to the fight of peoples for national liberation and social progress is a principle of our foreign policy, spelled out in the USSR Constitution. It is being successively implemented.... There is no area in world policy in which our party and the Soviet government have not spoken for the cause of justice, progress, and peace."

The humanitarianism of Soviet seamen is well known in many countries. The selfless actions of our seamen who rendered aid to the local public of the Republic of Mauritius in recovering from the consequences of a destructive cyclone elicited a tremendous response from that republic. Residents of the city of Algiers will long remember the noble deed of Lieutenant Oleg Vishnevskiy, a Soviet naval officer who rescued a child who had fallen overboard. We know of numerous cases in which our crews provided help to people suffering disaster at sea. It is no accident that every time after we visit a foreign port the visitors log is full of enthusiastic notes by local residents about our seamen and about the international peace-loving policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet government. Here is one such note. "I welcome my sincere friends, the Soviet seamen," wrote the Syrian Akhmed Aslan. "I hope and I wish that Soviet warships would visit us again in the future to strengthen the friendship and cooperation between our peoples and to develop it further. Long live Soviet-Syrian friendship!"

The November (1978) Plenum of the CC CPSU noted that ideological work had been raised to a new level in our country in recent years. However, the demands

imposed on it are growing constantly, and the tasks are becoming more complex. Moreover laxity in and neglect of ideological work may do considerable harm. This is why it is the duty of warriors on the ideological front to upgrade the quality and effectiveness of the work, and to improve its forms and methods. Commanders and political workers are making the necessary conclusions from these directives of the CC CPSU Plenum. They understand quite well that the ideological maturity of the seamen depends in many ways on their responsible attitude toward their work; consequently, so do the combat readiness of the ships and the successes the personnel enjoy in all of their tasks.

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## GUIDE FOR TROOP INDOCTRINATION ON MORALITY

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[Article by Cand Phil Sci, Asst Prof, Capt 1st Rank : Kostikov: "The CPSU on Moral Indoctrination of Soviet People. The Moral Countenance of the Soviet Soldier--A Patriot and An Internationalist"]

[Excerpts] Lessons on this subject have the goal of helping privates and seamen gain a deeper understanding of the nature and content of communist morality, of its fundamental differences from bourgeois morality, and of the Communist Party's policies related to moral indoctrination of the Soviet people. Another of their goals is to help them recognize what the moral countenance of the Soviet soldier should be.

Eight hours are devoted to this topic. It would be best to distribute this time as follows: two hours for lecture (narration), two hours for independent work by the students, and four hours for a seminar (discussion).

Examination of the following problems is recommended in the lecture (narration): 1. V. I. Lenin and the CPSU on communist morality and its fundamental difference from bourgeois morality. 2. The 25th CPSU Congress on indoctrination of Soviet people in the spirit of communist morality. 3. Keeping the honor and worth of the Soviet soldier high.

A brief introduction should emphasize that our Leninist party has always devoted considerable attention to moral indoctrination of Soviet people and the army and navy soldiers, and will continue to do so. In his historic speech at the Third Komsomol Congress V. I. Lenin said: "All indoctrination, education, and training of modern youth must have as its goal infusion of communist morality" ("Poln. sobr. soch." (Complete Collected Works), Vol 41, p 309). Our party's leader believed that a person who has assimilated the requirements of communist morality and who has made them deep internal convictions and a daily rule of behavior, is able to consciously and, therefore, especially successfully participate in construction of the new society and in its defense. Vladimir Il'ich pointed out the direct dependence of victory and defeat in war on the morale of the masses that shed their blood



on the battlefield. "Belief in the justice of war," he said, "and an awareness of the need for sacrificing one's life for the good of one's brothers raises the spirit of the soldiers and forces them to endure unheard-of hardships" ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 41, p 121).

These premises stated by Lenin on the role and place of morality in communist construction and defense of the socialist fatherland enjoyed their subsequent development in decisions of party congresses and plenums of the CC CPSU, and in the works and speeches of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev.

# 1. V. I. Lenin and the CPSU on Communist Morality and Its Fundamental Difference From Bourgeois Morality

V. I. Lenin taught that communist morality is the natural result of social, spiritual, and moral development of mankind. Having as its source proletarian morality, which has its roots in the subsoil of capitalism, communist morality has been able to gradually affirm its place in society as the dominant type of morality only following the victory of the socialist revolution. This was not a smooth process, and it was not without its contradictions. Development of the new morality, V. I. Lenin wrote, occurred "not right away, not by way of a miracle, not by the will of the Mother of God, and not by the will of slogans, resolutions, and decrees, but only through a long and hard struggle by the masses...." ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 41, p 101). It was only by participating in the struggle for socialism that the working class, the peasantry, and the intelligentsia gradually freed themselves of the "birthmarks" of the past--the habits and morals of private ownership--and developed new socialist traits of character and of the moral countenance--collectivism, Soviet patriotism and proletarian internationalism, a new attitude toward labor, a sense of national pride, and others.

Communist morality rules inseparably in developed socialism. It is a harmonious expression of the interests of society and the personality. The principle that one man relates to another as a friend, a comrade, and a brother is gaining an ever firmer foothold in our lives.

V. I. Lenin pointed out the tremendous role played by morality in the life of the society. Presence of objective laws governing development of society, he noted, "abolishes neither man's reason nor his conscience...." ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 1, p 159). Morality, in his words, is a means by which human society raises itself higher and rids itself of exploitation of labor. The 60 years during which Soviet power has existed is a short time from the standpoint of history, but it is equivalent to a period of centuries in terms of its meaning. During these years of socialist and communist construction we developed a new type of personality--the Soviet man, together with the high moral qualities inherent to him.

V. I. Lenin is credited with the fact that he clearly stated the essence and criteria of communist morality: "...morality is that which promotes

destruction of the old society of exploitation and unification of all laborers about the proletariat as they erect a new society of communists" ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 41, p 311); "Communist morality has at its basis the struggle for reinforcement and final development of communism" ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 41, p 313).

Following Lenin's premises as stated here, every Soviet individual and every army and navy soldier would be able to correctly evaluate his thoughts and acts. The rules of our morality encourage people to subordinate their interests to the common good. There is no conflict in this. The interests of society and of the personality are closely intertwined in our country. After all, the end goal of communist construction is precisely to achieve maximum satisfaction of the individual's growing material and spiritual needs.

Bourgeois morality is diametrically opposed to communist morality. It is the morality of a society based on an individual's exploitation by another, on dominance of private ownership, and on the desire for profit at any price. V. I. Lenin provided a mortifying criticism of bourgeois morality, and he demonstrated its antinational, antihumanitarian, and egoistical nature. Capitalist morality is based, he pointed out, on the principle "...either you rob another, or he robs you, either you work for another, or he works for you, either you are a slaveowner, or you are a slave" ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 41, p 312). Lenin's description of the essence of bourgeois morality cited here is still completely meaningful today.

## 2. The 25th CPSU Congress on Indoctrination of the Soviet People In the Spirit of Communist Morality

The 25th CPSU Congress devoted a great deal of attention to the problems of moral indoctrination of Soviet people and of army and navy soldiers. Our party emphasizes that the role of communist morality is growing more and more in today's conditions. There are a number of reasons for making this statement. Precisely what are they?

First, the scale and tasks of communist construction are growing, and consequently the role of moral regulation of relationships between people in all spheres of their vital activities is increasing. The higher the moral awareness of the people climbs, the more effectively they participate in communist construction and the greater is their sense of responsibility for the fate of their motherland.

Second, the individual himself must be developed comprehensively and harmoniously. Moral purity and an active life position are very important elements of the spiritual world of the Soviet individual.

Third, the ideological struggle between the worlds of socialism and capitalism is intensifying under modern conditions. Morality is that sphere of social awareness and practical relationships in which the struggle between

the two ideologies is acquiring an exceptionally fierce nature. We cannot confirm communist morality without waging a decisive struggle against its antithesis--bourgeois morality, without nurturing an abhorrence of its principles and ideals in the Soviet people and in army and navy soldiers.

The 25th CPSU Congress defined the goals and tasks of moral indoctrination, as well as its basic directions, forms, and methods. The end goal of the party's efforts at indoctrination, including moral indoctrination of Soviet people, remains the same--that of developing the personality comprehensively and harmoniously. It is no surprise that moral indoctrination occupies an extremely important place in the integrated approach to indoctrination, as it was worded by the 25th CPSU Congress. To develop a person's morality means mainly to shape his moral consciousness--that is, to see that he deeply assimilates what communist morality is, what its fundamental principles are, and what concepts such as good, evil, justice, honor, conscience, and others mean in relationship to it.

But of course it would be an exaggeration to assert that everyone in our country has been infused with the spirit of communist morality to the same level. We still unfortunately encounter cases of antisocial manifestations in certain individuals. Speaking at the 28th Komsomol Congress, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev noted: "The party and the Komsomol are devoting a great deal of attention to moral indoctrination of the young. Assertion of the rules and principles of communist morality would be impossible without a constant and persistent struggle against antisocial manifestations, spiritual poverty, and its inevitable satellites--drunkenness, hooliganism, and violations of labor discipline. Nor is the danger of latent manifestations of immorality, ones which are not always noticed at first inspection, any lower. Indifference, parasitism, cynicism, and the desire to get more from society than is given to it are moral deviations which must not be neglected by the Komsomol, or by all of our society."

Deviations from the rules of our morality are manifested in the army and navy by specific cases of lack of discipline in servicemen, incorrect mutual relationships between them, consumption of alcoholic beverages, a disrespectful attitude toward young ladies, use of bad language, and so on. Despite their sporadic occurrence, such phenomena are intolerable. Fighting moral flaws in such persons, we must capitalize fully upon public opinion, critical remarks, methods of persuasion, the force of law, and the military code.

The moral qualities of the soldier's personality take shape in our country under the influence of the entire socialist way of life and the nature of military service, though mainly owing to indoctrination by commanders, political workers, and party and Komsomol organizations, and to self-education. The essence of moral indoctrination and self-education is that every soldier forms communist moral convictions, high moral qualities and feelings, and the habits of highly moral behavior.

Completing the presentation of material on the second problem, the instructor should remind the students of the high grade given to the educational role

of the Soviet Armed Forces by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 25th CPSU Congress: "Young people come to the soldier's family," he said, "without experience in life. But they return from the army as people who have undergone a school of endurance and discipline, as people who have received technical and occupational knowledge and political training" ("Materialy XXV s"yezda KPSS" (Proceedings of the 25th CPSU Congress), pp 75-76).

### 3. Keeping the Honor and Worth of the Soviet Soldier High

The Soviet Armed Forces and the people are one and the same. Therefore it is entirely natural that the requirements of communist morality would apply wholly and completely to all soldiers of the army and navy. Communist indoctrination in military collectives presupposes comprehensive improvement of moral attitudes, and establishment of a moral atmosphere in the units and aboard the ships. The atmosphere of the military collective is a concrete manifestation of socialist social relationships in the army or navy environment.

What sort of people are our privates, seamen, and officers? They are the offspring of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the peoples intelligentsia, between which antagonistic contradictions do not exist and cannot be. After all, we have no privileged classes or groups in our society, there is no exploitation, and no one can claim ownership of someone else's labor.

Having dropped the curtain on exploitation and antagonism of classes, socialism also put an end to national separatism and promoted true flourishing, mutual trust, and convergent growth of all nations in our country. A historically new social and international society of people evolved in the USSR--the Soviet people. They are marching confidently forward, toward communism under the tested guidance of the Leninist party. All of this has reflected itself in the Soviet military collective as in a mirror. It contains neither class nor national separatism. The soldiers--representatives of all nations and peoples--are united in such a collective on the basis of the principles of fraternal cooperation and mutual assistance.

Of course the military collective also has its unique features as a fragment of Soviet society. This uniqueness stems mainly from the purpose of the Soviet Armed Forces. Their duty to the people, according to the USSR Constitution, is to dependably protect the socialist fatherland, and to be in constant combat readiness guaranteeing an immediate repulse to any aggressor. In accordance with this fundamental mission, the military collective is distinguished by a particular organizational structure and by clearly spelled mutual relationships between supervisor and subordinate.

As in any Soviet collective, relationships among people are regulated in a military collective by Soviet laws and by the principles of communist morality. In view of the unique features of the army and navy, as a supplement to these basic regulators of our life, the activity of servicemen



is strictly regulated by the military oath, the military regulations, and the requirements of high military discipline.

Requirements of the oath and the regulations by their essence express the will of the Soviet people to dependably defend our motherland and its great revolutionary achievements. The clear language of these regulations states precisely what every military serviceman must do to honorably complete his military duty to the people and the state. This is why the oath and the regulations are a union of moral and legal aspects, which supplement one another and impart greater weight to each other.

The premise stated in the USSR Constitution that protection of the socialist fatherland is the sacred duty of every citizen of the USSR and that military service in the USSR Armed Forces is the honorable obligation of the Soviet citizen is a legal embodiment of the deep desires and intentions of each Soviet citizen.

All aspects of the life and mutual relationships of servicemen in our armed forces are governed by state legal documents, to include the military oath and military regulations. However, satisfaction of the requirements is based mainly not on the fear of punishment and on compulsion, as had been the case and is presently the case in, for example, the armies of the capitalist countries, but rather on each serviceman's awareness of his military duty and his personal responsibility for protecting his motherland and the entire socialist fraternity.

Were we to analyze the content of the military oath and the military regulations, we would discover without special difficulty that they contain much in common with the moral code of a builder of communism. Personality qualities such as honor, justice, faithfulness to friendship and comradeship, love of the motherland and hatred of its enemies, and others are reflected in all of these documents.

Almost all norms and rules of a soldier's behavior, dictated by the oath and the regulations, are at the same time both moral and legal norms and rules. Thus respect for seniors is a requirement of our morality, and in the unit and aboard ship it also carries the force of law. The USSR Armed Forces Internal Service Regulations state: "The serviceman must show respect to commanders (chiefs) and seniors...."

Greater requirements are also imposed in the army and navy on moral rules such as comradeship and mutual assistance. The moral rule that nothing is more sacred than comradeship has long confirmed itself in our society. "Help your comrade even if it means sacrificing yourself. In turn, your comrade will help you in times of trouble," stated the first Red Army booklet published in V. I. Lenin's time. The significance of comradeship is even more important today. The new weapons, the fiercer nature of armed conflict involving the use of the most destructive resources, and the dramatically greater fluidity of combat activities significantly increase the demands on the moral-psychological qualities of soldiers, on friendship and military comradeship, and on mutual support and aid in battle.

The moral countenance of the Soviet soldier, a defender of the motherland, is an embodiment of the best moral traits of the Soviet citizen, to include communist ideological conviction, patriotism and internationalism, intoleration of the enemies of communism, humanitarianism, honor and justice, modesty and simplicity, discipline, bravery, combat comradeship, and readiness for self-sacrifice in behalf of the motherland.

The personality's ideological conviction has special significance. It is the core of moral firmness and steadfastness, which have always distinguished Soviet soldiers. Moral convictions are nothing more than moral knowledge and ideas that have been deeply experienced and felt, and which have become the daily rule of behavior for the individual. As the saying goes, "This is my way, and it cannot be any other." The deeper a person's convictions are, the brighter is his moral countenance, the stronger is his love for the motherland, and the more conscious is his hatred of enemies.

The history of our army is full of examples of the human spirit raised to the utmost, of nobility, and of selflessness. Here are just a few of them. Lieutenant General of Engineering Troops D. M. Karbyshev, a well known Soviet troop commander, was captured by the fascists after being wounded. A person of high moral convictions and an avid patriot of his country, he indignantly rejected the suggestion made by his enemies that he defect over to their side. "My convictions do not fall out together with my teeth due to a lack of vitamins in the concentration camp ration," he retorted to his enemies. Neither hunger nor humiliation nor the threat of death broke his will. He died, but he did not soil the honor of the USSR citizen or the honor of a communist and a soldier of the Soviet Armed Forces.

During the battle of Novgorod tank company political instructor A. K. Pankratov led the soldiers in an attack. At a critical moment in the battle he charged an enemy machinegun and covered its barrel with his chest. Private Aleksandr Matrosov did the same. About 370 soldiers repeated this act of heroism during the war. Naval seamen G. G. Dolya, A. V. Kalyuzhnyy, V. I. Mudrik, D. I. Pogorelov and others repelled German attacks at Sevastopol' for 3 days under the leadership of detachment commander S. S. Rayenko. The enemy lost 100 soldiers but he was unable to capture the pillbox until not a single seaman was left alive.

The words of one of Moscow's defenders, company political instructor V. G. Klochkov--"Vast is Russia, but there can be no more retreat, for Moscow is at our backs!"--were heard around the world. Political instructor Klochkov and his comrades in arms took on 50 fascist tanks at the Dubosekovo siding, but they did not let the tanks pass.

The act of heroism committed by a group of Guards soldiers under the command of Sergeant Ya. F. Pavlov has become a symbol of bravery. They defended a house in the center of Stalingrad for 58 days. This group annihilated as many fascists as they had lost capturing some large cities in Western countries.



A person having strong ideological convictions can consciously walk a difficult but the sole correct road, being ready to give his all to the common good. Ideological convictions are the wings of bravery. Without them the individual is weak, he is spiritually impoverished, and he has no initiative. All acts of heroism by Soviet soldiers in wartime and in peacetime have been inspired by convictions, and they have been committed in behalf of great ideas, in behalf of the motherland, which is the most precious thing we have. This is the highest manifestation of communist morality.

There is also room for acts of heroism, selflessness, and noble acts in behalf of military duty, the requirements of the oath and regulations, and the rules of communist morality in peacetime. Here are just a few examples. Private 1st Class Yu. Nikiforov disarmed 875 mines and shells in 2 years of service. Privates A. Breyze and T. Zhusupov restrained a dangerous criminal. Seaman Vitaliy Kardashevskiy prevented a fire at a POL dump at the price of his own life, driving a burning vehicle out of the fuel dump. Such are the deeds of true soldier-patriots, faithful sons of their great motherland.

Comrade L. I. Brezhnev described the nature of heroism deeply and clearly in his memoirs "Malaya zemlya" (The Little Land): "Of course people naturally feel fear before death. But the decision to act in a critical moment seems to materialize on its own, as if it had been prepared for by all previous life. This means that there is some limit, some instant in which the soldier-patriot's awareness of his duty to the motherland suppresses his fear, his pain, and his thoughts of death. This means that an act of heroism is not an unaccountable action; it is a manifestation of a person's conviction in the justice and greatness of that for which he consciously sacrifices his life."

Special emphasis should be laid on discipline, an important military quality. There can be no army without discipline. Inasmuch as military discipline is based in the Soviet Armed Forces primarily on the high consciousness of military servicemen, discipline can be interpreted as one of the important criteria of a soldier's moral maturity, since in the words of V. I. Lenin, morality reflects itself most fully in "unified, solid discipline" ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 41, p 313).

Discipline is in a sense the practical aspect of a soldier's moral consciousness. It manifests itself mainly as strict and unquestioning satisfaction of the requirements of the military oath and military regulations, and of orders from commanders and supervisors. Diligence and accuracy in all, and the ability to obey are inseparable traits of a disciplined soldier and sailor. Discipline also manifests itself in respect for commanders and one's comrades, in compliance with the rules of military courtesies and honors, in cultured behavior, and in many other things. "It is but a single step from discipline to heroism," former soldiers say.

The significance of discipline and self-discipline is growing even more today. The maneuverability, fluidity, and swiftness of combat actions and

little time--minutes or even seconds--available for making military equipment combat ready have increased the role of discipline immeasurably. Morality and discipline are intimately intertwined, and they are inseparable in the character of the soldier, a competent and dependable defender of the socialist motherland.

Speaking to the electorate of the capital's Baumanskiy election district, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said: "The requirement to improve organization and raise responsibility and discipline in all areas of the work is one of the principal dictates of the electors. Let us do everything, comrades, to fulfill this dictate--not in words but in deed!" These statements pertain fully to soldiers of our armed forces, to their day-to-day military labor.

Completing presentation of material on this topic, it is important to conclude that requirements on the moral-political and combat qualities of Soviet soldiers are growing today. The communist morality of the motherland's defenders is based on their ideological certainty of the historic justice of the interests they serve, an avid love for the socialist fatherland, and the readiness to fight for it to the last drop of blood.

It is recommended that the students study the following documents during their hours of independent study: V. I. Lenin's speech at the Third Komsomol Congress "The Tasks of the Youth Unions" ("Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 41, pp 298-318); the Constitution (Fundamental Law) of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (Articles 31-32, 62-63); Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech "Report of the CPSU Central Committee and the Subsequent Tasks of the Party in Domestic and Foreign Policy" ("Materialy XXV s"yezda VPS" p 71-80, 83); Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech to the 18th Komsomol Congress (PRAVDA, 26 April, 1978); Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech to the electorate of the Baumanskiy election district in Moscow (PRAVDA, 3 March, 1979); Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's memoirs "The Little Land," "Resurrection," and "The Virgin Land."

The following films could be shown in the evening: "Ballad of a Soldier," "Father of a Soldier," "The Living and the Dead," and the film epic "The Great Patriotic War."

The following problems can be discussed in the first seminar: 1. V. I. Lenin on communist morality. 2. The 25th CPSU Congress on indoctrination of Soviet people in the spirit of communist morality. 3. The superiority of communist morality over bourgeois morality.

The following problems can be discussed in the second seminar: 1. Reflection of the rules of communist morality in the requirements of the military oath and military regulations. 2. Growth in the requirements on moral-political and combat qualities of the motherland's defenders today. 3. Carrying the honor and worth of the Soviet soldier high.

#### Literature for Propagandists

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2. Lenin, V. I., "Speech to an Expanded Workers-Red Army Conference in Rogozhsko-Simonovskiy Rayon on 13 May 1920," in "Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 41, pp 120-121.
3. Lenin, V. I., "The Tasks of the Youth Unions," in "Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 41, pp 298-318.
4. Lenin, V. I., "On Fruitful Soil," in "Poln. sobr. soch.," Vol 35, pp 408-409.
5. "Konstitutsiya (Osnovnoy Zakon) Soyuza Sovetskikh Sotsialisticheskikh Respublik" (The Constitution (Fundamental Law) of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Articles 31, 32, 62, 63.
6. Brezhnev, L. I., "Report to the CPSU Central Committee and the Subsequent Tasks of the Party in Domestic and Foreign Policy," in "Materialy XXV s"yezda KPSS" (Proceedings of the 25th CPSU Congress), Politizdat, 1976, pp 71-80, 83.
7. Brezhnev, L. I., "Speech to the 18th Komsomol Congress," PRAVDA, 26 April 1978.
8. Brezhnev, L. I., "In Behalf of the Happiness of the Soviet People. Speech to the Electorate of Baumanskiy Election District, Moscow," PRAVDA, 3 March 1979.
9. Brezhnev, L. I., "Malaya zemlya" (The Little Land), "Vozrozhdeniye" (Resurrection), "Tselina" (The Virgin Land).
10. Ustinov, D. P., "Strengthening the Power of Our Motherland. Speech to the Electorate of the Kuntsevskiy Election District, Moscow," PRAVDA, 24 February 1979.
11. Yepishev, A. A., "Speech to the 18th Komsomol Congress," KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 27 April 1978.  
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## CHIEF OF CHEMICAL TROOPS ON HISTORY AND TASKS

Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 6, Jun 79 signed to press  
8 May 79 pp 4-5

[Article by Col Gen Tech Trps V. Pikalov, chief of chemical troops  
of the Ministry of Defense: "The Chemical Troops"]

[Text] Chemical troops are one of the youngest arms of troops. They emerged during World War I. On 13 November 1918 the Revolutionary Military Council of the Republic introduced a well-organized system of chemical service among the troops. The necessity for this decision arose from the real threat that the White Guards and interventionists would use chemical weapons. Therefore, chiefs of antigas defense were appointed in divisions, brigades, and regiments and special teams were formed for gas defense training of troops, chemical and meteorological observation, and warning units and subunits of enemy use of toxic substances. They also fitted personnel with gas masks.

Chemical specialists were trained by a gas defense training company. In 1919-20 two flame-thrower companies and a flame-thrower team (which later received an honorary Revolutionary Red Banner of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee for its part in the defense of the Kakhova Springboard) were formed. The schools for military gas equipment were given the same award.

Building and improving the Armed Forces in the years of peaceful socialist development, the Communist Party and Soviet Government took account of the intensive preparations of the imperialist states for chemical warfare. By the end of the 1930's separate chemical defense platoons and companies were formed in all rifle, cavalry, tank, and mechanized units and subunits. The chemical units of the Reserve of the Commander-in-Chief had flame-thrower tank battalions and brigades equipped with combat flame-throwers, chemical sprayers, gas decontamination instruments and vehicles, smoke generators, and chemical reconnaissance instruments. All army and navy personnel received reliable individual protective gear.

The Military Chemical Academy and Military Chemical School opened at this same time. Outstanding Soviet military leaders such as K. Voroshilov, M. Tukhachevskiy, and S. Timoshenko, prominent scientists such as N. Zelinskiy and N. Shilov, among others, made important contributions to the training and technical equipping of the chemical troops.

The flame-thrower and smoke subunits received their baptism of fire at Khalkhin Gol in 1939. The flame-thrower company operating as part of the Southern Group of our forces wiped out the Japanese aggressors at important strongpoints. Many soldiers earned government awards, and platoon commanders D. Kozlov and F. Spekhov plus mechanic-drivers I. Brants and I. Podnavoznyy were awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union. Flame-thrower units were used effectively when our forces broke through the long-standing defense of the White Finns on the Karelian Isthmus. In this fighting flame-thrower sergeants P. Krotov and F. Pavlov, Pvt A. Tarakanov, and others became Heroes of the Soviet Union.

Before the Great Patriotic War the Red Army had a precisely organized chemical service with centralized control. It was ready for possible use of chemical weapons by our enemies. The timeliness and importance of efforts to develop our forces is shown convincingly by the Sovinformbyuro report of 22 July 1941: "Secret German documents captured by units of the Red Army prove with exhaustive thoroughness that German fascism is secretly preparing for a monstrous new crime, widespread use of toxic substances. Active German troops have special chemical units to handle toxic substances." Reasoning from this, the Soviet command demanded "that chemical defense service be made an inseparable part of the use of troops in battle."

During the Great Patriotic War our chemical troops were able to preclude the possibility of surprise use of chemical weapons by the enemy, provide reliable defense for friendly forces, and support them in performance of combat missions by the use of flame-thrower incendiary and smoke weapons. Army and navy personnel mastered individual and collective protective gear, methods of decontaminating weapons, equipment, positions, and terrain, methods and procedures for smoke concealment of battle formations and rear facilities, and destroying tanks and fortified fire points with flame-throwers.

Flame-thrower troops fought courageously against tanks in repulsing enemy attacks at Kaluga, Volokolamsk, and Borodino Field. The company of static flame-throwers commanded by Lt M. Sobetskiy, cooperating with rifle subunits, successfully repulsed an attack by enemy tanks and automatic riflemen on 1 December 1941 near the villages of Akulovo and Dyat'kovo in the Naro-Fominsk region. This company was one of the first flame-thrower subunits to receive the Order of the Red Banner.



Between August and October 1941 50 companies of static flame-throwers were formed and sent to the front. By the summer of 1942 separate companies of manpack flame-throwers had appeared and gone through trial by fire in the fighting at Stalingrad. During the war years our flame-throwers set examples of courage and on the fields of battle demonstrated their boundless love and devotion to the Soviet Motherland. The Soviet Government valued their actions highly. More than half of all the flame-thrower units and subunits were awarded orders and received honorary names.

Chemical troops were used extensively to conceal troops and rear facilities against air strikes by smoke camouflage. In the spring of 1942 enemy aircraft made 4-5 bombing runs a day against the railroad bridge over the Ugra River, which was concealed by smoke, but they were unable to knock it out. Smoke was used most extensively in the offensive operations of 1943-1945. In the fighting to liberate Dnepropetrovsk on 24 and 25 October 1943, for example, a smoke screen set down during the crossing of the Dnepr River concealed two armies on a front of 35 kilometers.

Sgt I. Shaumyan, squad leader in a chemical defense platoon, performed a feat of heroism in the Dnepr crossing at Loyev. He was one of the first to cross the river and by skillful use of smoke weapons he supported the landing operation. After being wounded Shaumyan continued to perform his battle mission, helped repulse enemy counterattacks, and personally killed 13 fascists. He was awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union for this act. Many chemical troops fought with equal courage. During the Great Patriotic War 22 officers, sergeants, and soldiers of the chemical troops were given the title Hero of the Soviet Union.

In the postwar years the U. S. imperialists and their cohorts in the aggressive blocs began intensive preparations for the use of chemical weapons and new means of mass destruction, which naturally led to an increase in the role and importance of the chemical troops of the USSR Armed Forces.

The constant attention of the party and government to strengthening our country's defense capability, the steadily growing potential of the Soviet economy, the advances of Soviet science and technology, and the heroic labor of our people have made it possible to streamline the organization of the chemical troops and equip them with all types of weapons and equipment necessary for successful support of contemporary combat actions. The officers, warrant officers (praporshchiki), sergeants, and soldiers of the chemical troops are working hard to master the equipment entrusted to them. They keep it in constant combat readiness, proudly carrying on the glorious traditions of our chemical soldiers.

The subunits commanded by officers N. Ablayev, Yu. Goncharov, N. Volkov, and many others have been outstanding for several years.

Both officers and warrant officers are proving to be skillful organizers of training and indoctrination. WOs Ya. Kutinskiy, M. Maksimov, and M. Mosyuk, with outstanding ratings in combat and political training and high specialist ratings, set an example in the use of modern equipment, organize and conduct training periods skillfully, and introduce a spirit of competition in them.

Sgt. V. Dombrovskiy, V. Zaluzhnyy, and N. Timoshchuk, Pvs V. Bobin, S. Chizh, A. Smirnov, and F. Shaykhutdinov, among others, are skillfully mastering their specializations. In just the last few years many chemical soldiers have been awarded orders and medals for success in combat and political training.

The commanders, party and Komsomol organizations, and personnel of the chemical troops are striving for outstanding mastery, intelligent operation, and exemplary maintenance of their equipment. They are improving their specialist ratings, striving for complete mutual replaceability in teams and crews, and helping new soldiers master the equipment entrusted to them quickly.

Today's draftees need not only a high general educational level but also certain military and technical knowledge. They must be prepared morally and psychologically. A great deal is being done to this end in the general schools, tekhnikums, vocational-technical schools, and DOSAAF organizations. Thanks to the efforts of teachers and DOSAAF members, each year the chemical troops receive good recruits.

The chemical troops use complex equipment, precision instruments, and measuring apparatus, so they must have a high level of special and technical training. Officers, experienced engineers, and teachers skillfully pass on their knowledge and experience to their subordinates.

The chemical troops never forget V. I. Lenin's instructions to "really study military affairs." They persistently improve their skills and increase their vigilance and combat readiness.

Photo Caption [photo not reproduced]: Chemical troops prepare to perform a mission.

Photo Caption [photo not reproduced]: The exercise is over. A team performs technical servicing on a spraying truck.

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## CHIEF OF ENGINEER TROOPS ON HISTORY AND TASKS

Moscow VOYENNOYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 6, Jun 79 signed to press  
8 May 79 pp 8-9

[Article by Col Gen Engr Trps S. Aganov, chief of engineer troops of the Ministry of Defense: "The Engineer Troops"]

[Text] The engineer troops are the oldest special forces and perform a broad and varied range of missions on the field of battle. They have rich combat and revolutionary traditions and trace their ancestry back to the early 18th century. It was then, when Peter the Great was still emperor, that the first regular engineer units and subunits in the Russian Army were formed. These were the "mine companies" formed in 1702, the "pontoon teams" formed in 1704, and the "regiment of military engineers."

In the years that followed practically everything new which technical progress gave to the army for use in warfare was concentrated in the engineer troops. The scope of their missions steadily enlarged, as did their share in the total composition of the army.

In the early 20th century the signal troops, railroad, aviation, armored tank, vehicle, chemical, and other special troops were separated out from the engineers and began independent development. Even today, however, the engineer troops include sapper, pontoon, road engineer, water supply, technical engineer, and other subunits.

It has long been the practice to call soldiers in all engineer specializations sappers. This one short word covers a broad diversity of combat duties. In battle sappers lay out roads for movement by all arms of troops, lay out water crossings and construct bridges over water obstacles, make breaches in enemy obstacles, construct defensive structures on defensive lines and at command posts, set up minefields, blow up bridges, dams, and other objects to block enemy movement and wipe out his men and equipment, and, if necessary erect dummy structures and dig wells for water.

The Soviet engineer troops emerged during the revolutionary events of 1917, in the years of bitter fighting for the young Republic of Soviets. At the first round from the Aurora large engineer units of the Petrograd garrisons came over to the side of the revolution: the 6th Sapper Battalion with 12,000 men; an electrical engineering battalion of 7,000, and a motor-pontoon reserve battalion of 1,600 men.

The first formations of the Red Army had engineer units and subunits. They supported the actions of our forces in all the operations of the Civil War and made a large contribution to the common cause of crushing the foreign interventionists and counterrevolutionary White Guard forces.

The sappers contributed an enormous amount of labor to building defensive lines at Petrograd, Pskov, Tsaritsyn, Kiev, Perm', and Samara. During the Red Army offensive they moved troops across the Dnepr during seizure of the Kakhovka springboard, laid bridges over the Belaya River for Chapayev's division which was advancing against Ufa, took part in the assault on the Perekop and Ishun' fortified positions, rebuilt the Chongarskiy Bridge very quickly after it was burned by Vrangeli's troops, and performed many other combat missions.

Twenty-six units of the engineer troops and 96 individuals were awarded the Order of the Red Banner for bravery and courage shown during those years; seven soldiers received this award twice.

The fighting men of the engineer troops showed heroism and boundless devotion to the Motherland on a truly massive scale during the Great Patriotic War. Starting from the first days of the war they laid mines, destroyed bridges and roads in the path of the advancing enemy hordes, prepared defensive lines at the front and deep in the rear, and then during offensive operations supported the ceaseless advance of the Soviet Army in the mountains, through the swamps, in snow storms and mud.

There is no river between the Volga and the Spree over which the soldiers of the engineer troops did not lay bridges and organize crossings during the Great Patriotic War.

The following figures give some idea of the scope of the missions they performed during the war. By themselves defensive construction units erected about 50,000 kilometers of defensive lines involving up to 200 million cubic meters of earthwork. During the war engineer units laid more than 70 million mines, which destroyed roughly 10,000 enemy tanks and other pieces of equipment and large numbers of fascist soldiers and officers.

More than 400,000 kilometers of troop roads were set up and more than 11,000 bridges built. Our troops made hundreds of thousands of

breaches in enemy obstacles and mined 765,000 square kilometers of territory.

In his book "Malaya Zemlya" [Small Land], Comrade L. I. Brezhnev says this about the actions of the sappers: "There were explosion craters, some of which were large enough to call foundation pits, and the sappers connected them together with trenches and turned them into bunker systems. In a narrow corner of the Small Land they set up three defensive lines one kilometer from one another. There were mine fields along each of them.

"In essence, the entire Small Land was turned into an underground fortress. The 230 reliably concealed observation posts became its eyes, and the 500 concealed fire points were its armored fists. Dozens of kilometers of communications passages, and thousands of fox holes and trenches for riflemen were dug. The forward edge was a place of constant alarm and danger. It was densely mined and woven with barbed wire. During their work sappers sometimes had to engage in hand-to-hand fighting."

In the battles against the Nazi aggressors soldiers of the engineer troops showed unprecedented examples of heroism, valor, initiative, resourcefulness, and military guile. Their work and deeds for the good of our Motherland were fairly evaluated by the Communist Party and Soviet Government, which awarded orders and medals to 100,000 soldiers, sergeants, officers, and generals of the engineer troops, made 642 of them Heroes of the Soviet Union, and presented the three degrees of Order of Glory to 266 of them.

More than 200 engineer formations and units received the honorary title of "Guards" during the war.

The last salvos of the victory salute died away, but for the soldiers of the engineer troops a long battle still lay ahead against the "rusting death," as unexploded bombs, shells, mines, and other explosive objects remaining on the field of battle are sometimes called. Even today requests sometimes come in to disarm a group of mines found at a construction site or to destroy a shell or bomb. In every case the sappers remove the mortal danger for people quickly and skillfully and prevent lethal devastation.

Recall the warmth of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev when speaking, in his book "Vozrozhdeniye" [Resurrection], of the heroic actions of sappers in removing the mines from the Dnepr Hydroelectric Power Plant. Many such examples could be given. And we must point out that hundreds of soldiers, sergeants, and officers of the engineer troops have been given high government awards in the postwar years for their courage, bravery, and skillful actions.



This is not the only thing for which our soldiers, sergeants, and officers receive gratitude and profound respect for their occupation. Engineer troops, with their powerful water crossing, earthmoving, and other machinery, are actively involved in rescue work at every natural disaster, whether it is a flood, a landslide, or a forest fire.

That was the case in 1931 when an enormous fire at the Maykop Oilfield was put out. Five sappers became the first in the Red Army to receive the Order of Lenin for that action.

That was the case in the dry summer of 1972 when subunits of engineer troops and their equipment took part in extinguishing large forest fires in Moscow, Tul'skaya, Gor'kovskaya, and other oblasts. That was the case this spring when spring flooding in the southern part of Belorussia cut off a whole string of communities and villages from the outside world and it was necessary to deliver food and evacuate some inhabitants and livestock and property. These are only isolated examples of the things that engineer troops sometimes must do when there is no war.

Intensive training is now underway in our Armed Forces. The personnel of engineer units and subunits, like fighting men in all the other arms of troops, are improving their combat skills every day, every hour, and working with great zeal to achieve new advances in field training. They are competing to surpass norms and fulfill socialist obligations.

The engineer troops are giving special attention to mastering the powerful engineering equipment now at the disposal of our units. Thanks to the tireless concern of the Communist Party and Soviet Government we have up-to-date engineer vehicles and machines which employ the latest advances of science and technology. Electronics, hydraulics, pneumatics, electrical engineering, and automation have been used extensively in current engineer equipment such as, for example, track layers, bridge layers and mechanized bridges, powerful foundation pit and trenching machines, first-class pontoon fleets and water crossing means, and highly effective means of surmounting obstacles.

The power available per individual in engineer units and subunits has increased enormously. Electrical and pneumatic tools, power plants and aggregate units with various capacities, and logging and drilling machines have made it possible to eliminate most heavy manual labor in the performance of most jobs and to achieve a high pace of work. This is the main thing today because the nature of modern warfare demands a sharp reduction in the time required to perform all engineer support jobs without exception, while at the same time the volume of these jobs has greatly increased.

Of course, simply having large amounts of complex machinery available does not take care of things. Success comes only to those units and subunits where personnel have mastered this equipment, studied it down to the individual screws, and use it skillfully in various situations.

This can be confirmed by numerous examples of successful actions by engineer units at major combined arms exercises in recent years. These units give fixed attention to technical training of personnel and set up outstanding physical facilities for training. Their training devices allow trainees to practice the procedures of controlling machines and performing various combat missions to the point of automatism. The mechanic-drivers of engineering machines are generally rated specialists.

Of course, one cannot become a rated specialist right away. A great deal of hard work is required. Those who will reach this goal fastest are soldiers who before being called into the army worked on machines such as bulldozers, excavators, graders or tractors, and diesel or internal combustion motor vehicles in the economy. After all, many types of engineer equipment are very similar to these vehicles and machines.

Those comrades who come to engineer units after graduating from DOSAAF schools quickly master engineer equipment also. When instructors and teachers skillfully pass on their knowledge to trainees everyone who studies conscientiously will quickly master the job.

Young people are very attracted to service in such units. This is understandable, because in them they have an excellent opportunity to acquire specializations which are very necessary and useful in the economy, which means they will set themselves up for the future. In the engineer troops it is possible to become an excavator or bulldozer operator, a crane operator or electrician, demolition expert or diver, logging or drilling operator, or driver of a diesel truck or tractor, and there are many other equally interesting specializations as well. We need only observe that much will depend on the young man who has expressed a desire to learn to work on a particular engineer machine or become a specialist in one of the many areas of engineer work. It will depend on his diligence and persistence in working toward this goal.

In addition, there is no doubt that general educational knowledge and good physical conditioning are necessary. They will help master the machinery quickly and learn to perform engineer missions at any time of the day and year, in good weather or bad.

Service in the engineer troops develops courage and bravery, resourcefulness, and persistence. It teaches circumspection and precision in action. Without these qualities one cannot, for example, lay a mine field, blow up a bridge, figure out and disarm an enemy mine trap, make a passage through a mine field, or lay a bridge across a rushing stream.

So that is everything that soldiers of the engineer troops today study. They work hard to master the equipment entrusted to them and procedures to use under the complex conditions of modern battle. They are toughening themselves physically and morally, preparing themselves in every way to perform their sacred duty to defend the Motherland.

## COMMENTS ON NATO VIEWS ON GEOPHYSICAL WARFARE

Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 6, Jun 79 signed to press  
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[Article by V. Frolov, candidate of technical sciences, based on foreign press materials: "Geophysical Warfare"]

[Text] The term "geophysical warfare" emerged in the early 1960's when scientific laboratories of various NATO countries, primarily the United States, engaged in a fevered search for ways to influence the environment for military purposes. They had in mind purposeful use of global processes occurring in the atmosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere as a new, exceptionally powerful weapon of mass destruction.

Not long ago geophysical warfare was discussed chiefly by foreign science fiction writers. However, the scope and pace of the scientific-technical revolution give solid reasons to believe that humanity today stands at the threshold of major scientific discoveries that can be used by militarists for military purposes. The "breakthrough" which occurred in nuclear physics in the 20th century may be repeated in other branches of science.

Using the myth of the "Soviet threat" like a smoke screen, apologists of the military-industrial complex are trying to lull the vigilance of the world's peoples. They claim that the ideas of creating a "super-weapon" exist today only in the minds of scientists, while real possibilities of such a weapon are a matter of the remote future. Therefore, they say, the issue of prohibiting such a weapon is, at least at the present time, not a pressing matter.

However, facts indicate that there is a tendency in our day to steadily reduce the time required to implement major scientific discoveries. Practical embodiment of the idea of the steam engine took a century, but creation of the atomic bomb occurred in a matter of a few years.

What happened with nuclear weapons may be repeated with geophysical weapons. Incidentally, the reactionaries did not raise the question

of using the forces of nature for military purposes today; they raised it much earlier. In 1950 one of them, Professor Wider of Cornell University in the United States, suggested using special mechanisms mounted on ships in the Atlantic Ocean to divert clouds away from the "communist world" in order to reduce the amount of precipitation in Eastern Europe and Asia by 50 percent and cause an artificial drought there. In 1953 a certain G. Gugenheim, receiving a prize of the American Meteorological Society for some unknown services, stated that "the atomic bomb is the most powerful means of destroying life today; control of the weather can become the most powerful way to destroy the means of existence." The newly discovered "laureate" discussed how it would be possible, using "appropriate substances" over the Atlantic and Western Europe, to dehydrate clouds on their way to Russia or, conversely, to stimulate heavy rainfall in Russia. All this ridiculous talk was published in a serious scientific journal in the United States.

Finally, one of the most recent statements concerning so-called "meteorological" warfare came from American Rear Admiral Reinborn, who said, "The technique of controlling weather on a broad scale can be used to cause major flooding in strategic regions or to create a new ice age in enemy regions." So there you are! A new ice age, nothing less!

According to the calculations of foreign scientists, the amount of energy spent by the atmosphere over 3-4 hours to form several cumulus clouds, even weakly developed ones, is 100 billion kilocalories. And for now, and also for the immediate future, they conclude that this is beyond human capabilities. It is true that means presently exist to increase precipitation falling in a comparatively small area. The techniques of cloud seeding at airports and antihail rockets and shells are two examples.

But this is done entirely for peaceful purposes. The Pentagon decided to adopt them as weapons and use them to help its flyers in Southeast Asia. The American command used artificial rain making techniques numerous times in Vietnam. Downpours occurred as the result of cloud-seeding done with small crystals of silver or lead iodide released from aircraft. The first manmade rain storm was caused in 1963 over the South Vietnamese city of Hue to disperse an antigovernment demonstration of Buddhist monks. Similar rain storms were used later over the territory of Laos and Vietnam. With them the aggressor tried to wash out dirt roads, in particular the notorious "Ho Chi Minh trail," prevent supply of materials to the Vietnamese patriots, and reduce the fighting effectiveness of North Vietnamese antiaircraft complexes operating in the region of the Laotian border. In the latter case the clouds were seeded with special chemicals that caused "acid rain" which eats at metal. These rain storms caused serious harm to the peaceful population because they destroyed irrigation structures, creating enormous zones of disastrous flooding.

It was learned later that conventional radar jamming means (dipole reflectors and finely cut metallized tape) can be used to stimulate precipitation from warm tropical clouds. Hygroscopic substances used to seed clouds also contained dehydrating and defoliating agents to destroy ground vegetation. This was actually a chemical weapon with a meteorological side effect. There is no doubt that destroying the jungle and other vegetation over large areas also caused local changes in climatic conditions.

According to the foreign press, between 20 March 1967 and 5 July 1972 more than 2,600 rain making operations were carried out over Indochina, costing tens of millions of dollars. Foreign specialists estimate that the precipitation that fell in this period was 30 percent greater than normal. Another practice was burning forests over enormous areas which developed into "fire storms" that traveled at 200 kilometers an hour. It is true that in the wet Vietnamese climate they were quickly extinguished by rains which were, incidentally, caused by the "fire storms" themselves. However, the strategists of geophysical warfare believe that similar actions on the European continent could have disastrous consequences.

Thus, for the Pentagon Indochina was a kind of proving ground for field testing certain means of influencing the natural environment for military purposes. The "geophysical operations" carried out there brought enormous profits to chemical companies and monopolies in the United States which supplied the Pentagon with "highly effective" agents. But for the population of Vietnam, and the economy and ecology of the country, there was a colossal loss.

As can be seen from the document entitled "Discussion of Reports by the U. S. Secretary of Defense Concerning Activities Related to Changing Weather" and reports in the Western press, NATO strategists interested in geophysical warfare do not limit themselves to the technique for artificially stimulating precipitation. A number of other ways to influence the natural environment for military purposes are envisioned. One of them is artificial use of ocean currents, for example the Gulfstream or Kuroshio. Deflecting a warm current away from the coast of a particular country could cause significant climatic change and enormous economic loss.

Another idea expressed abroad is using a series of controlled nuclear explosions to break off part of the Antarctic ice cap. This would result in enormous tidal waves like tsunamis. Not only port cities, but also large coastal regions on other continents would suffer from them.

The Pentagon has not overlooked such menacing natural phenomena as hurricane winds and earthquakes either. Air currents conceal enormous energy. According to statements by foreign scientists, the energy of the wind is 3,000 times greater than the energy of the coal burned



throughout the world in a year. Hurricane winds occur at all latitudes, and not just at the earth's surface but also at great elevations. During World War II the American B-29 Flying Fortress bombers operating over the Sea of Japan were deflected from their assigned course by these air streams and suffered damage. There were cases where bombers at elevations of 7,000-8,000 meters entered the zone of a westerly hurricane wind and remained stationary in the air, not moving a centimeter forward, for a long time.

The "eye of the storm" is a special feature of tropical hurricanes. At the center of a hurricane there is a descending movement of air which results in a patch of clear blue sky with no wind in the middle of its system of turbulent winds and rain storms. It is proposed that the "eye of the storm" be used to "program" the movement of a hurricane. The point is that tropical cyclones occur where a large supply of energy is localized in a narrow strip of atmosphere. This energy is created when very warm and humid air is located below and the air in the upper troposphere is cold. Therefore, when tropical cyclones invade U. S. territory, for example, a whole series of devastating tornadoes will occur. In the summer of 1977 tropical storm Anita passed over the Gulf of Mexico. Scientists calculated that if this cyclone were to move over warmer water, it would absorb additional heat and become more fearsome. While passing over the Gulf of Mexico Anita in fact did encounter a warm sector. At this place the storm immediately grew in intensity, so much that the turbulence it caused lifted cold water from a depth of 50 meters and caused a giant tidal wave. The strategists of geophysical war hope to use the destructive force of hurricane winds and the precipitation they cause in this way at a place that hurts the enemy.

The works of certain Western scientists mention the possibility of spreading substances in the upper layers of the atmosphere that intensively absorb solar radiation. The temperature could be abruptly lowered in some particular region by this procedure, which would cool the earth's surface, to such a degree that life there would be practically impossible.

The advocates of war nurture one more insane idea: destroy all forms of life in a given area by destroying the protective ozone layer above the selected region. This layer is a comparatively thin and very vulnerable layer of the atmosphere. It provides a protective screen that keeps out short-wave solar radiation that is lethal for everything living. The artificial creation of a "hole" in the ozone layer would sharply increase the penetration of ultraviolet radiation to the earth's surface and turn it into a barren desert.

In view of the exceptional danger, as early as 1974 the Soviet Union brought a proposal to the United Nations for concluding an international convention outlawing the use of any natural forces and objects for military purposes. Experience shows how difficult it is to remove a weapon from countries' arsenals. It is easier and wiser

to prevent their appearance. If it had been possible in the 1930's and 1940's to have a universal ban on the development and creation of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction, humanity would possibly never have known the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Through the collective efforts of peace-loving countries, above all our Soviet Union, the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Means to Influence the Natural Environment was concluded. It was signed by representatives of 33 U. N. members in May 1977. Today the peace-loving forces of the world are working to see that every single member of this representative international organization ratifies the Convention.

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